

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are currently pending in the present application, with claim 1 being written in independent form. Claims 5-10 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, with claims 5-7 being previously canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 1-4 have been allowed.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,740,192 (Hatano). This rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of claims 8-10. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the above rejection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request the allowance of all the pending claims in the present application.

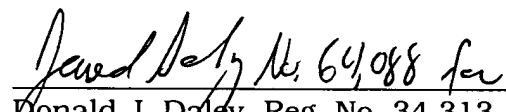
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Alex C. Chang, Reg. No. 52, 716, at the telephone number below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



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